

Santa Cruz. He relied on the skateboarders' experience to guide him through the design process, to build the best possible park for them. Derby Park is still enjoyed by many skateboarders throughout Santa Cruz and beyond.

His love for the skateboard parks was only rivaled by his appreciation for the arts. His artistry showed in skate projects in communities such as Napa, Milpitas, and Pleasanton. This devotion went well beyond the skate parks. He served 8 years on the Santa Cruz County Cultural Council and two terms on the Santa Cruz City Arts Commission. He promoted public art on Pacific Avenue and helped with the installations.

Ken traveled the country sharing his expertise and love of the skateboard parks. These visits helped other communities build parks and taught the communities successful new techniques to keep the lines of communication open with the community.

Ken will be missed by all those he encountered and inspired. He is survived by his wife Mardi, a Santa Cruz supervisor, a daughter Lisa, and three sons, Zachary, Jonathan, and Jacob. Zachary is a landscape artist and will continue in his father's footsteps, building skateboard parks for all to enjoy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 1997

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on rollcall votes Nos. 369 and 370 on September 8, 1997; had I been present I would have voted "no." And, on September 9, 1997, for rollcall votes: No. 371, motion to adjourn, "no"; No. 372, motion to adjourn, "no"; No. 374, motion to rise, "yes"; No. 375, quorum call, "yes"; No. 377, Coburn amendment, "no"; No. 378, Castle amendment to Istook amendment, "yes"; and No. 379, Istook amendment as amended by Castle, "yes".

TRIBUTE TO KENTUCKY STATE SENATOR JEFF GREEN

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 1997

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, along with the tragic deaths of Mother Teresa and Princess Diana, we in Kentucky have suffered a devastating loss of our own.

State Senator Jeff Green was taken from us at the far too young age of just 41 years old. Jeff Green was a hard-working, caring and devoted public servant, husband and father.

He could have taken the easy path some 2 years ago when doctors told him he had a dangerous heart condition. Jeff had lost his own father at an early age. But taking the easy path was not Jeff Green's way and we have benefited because of it.

He worked long hours in the Kentucky Legislature, but always had the time to be with his wife, Sharon, and their two young sons, Tyler and Alex. Because Jeff Green enjoyed one title more than that of Senator, he was most proud to be called Dad.

Mr. Speaker, all of Kentucky will miss Jeff Green. He was an extraordinary man who served his State extraordinarily well.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 4, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2264) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Chairman, I want to express my strong support for Representative

GOODLING's amendment which prohibits any money under this bill to be used to develop, plan, implement, or administer President Clinton's new national testing program.

In government classes taught all over this country, we learn about the three Federal branches of Government and their functions granted under the U.S. Constitution. I've been out of the classroom for a while now; however, I'm quite sure that article I, section I of the Constitution hasn't changed since I was in school. This section states that "All legislative powers herein shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives." With this in mind, my colleague from Pennsylvania shouldn't even have to offer this amendment because Congress has not authorized these tests.

During the President's 1997 State of the Union Address, he proposed that individualized national tests be given to fourth grade students in reading and math. Instead of seeking congressional approval for this new education policy, the Department of Education has decided to ignore the Congress and move ahead with the development of these tests with the intent of administering the tests beginning in 1999. Even if one supports the President's standardized national testing program, which I don't, shouldn't this be debated and decided in the U.S. Congress and not by Presidential edict? This appropriations bill, if not amended to include Representative GOODLING's language on national testing, leaves the door wide open for the Department of Education to continue work in this area.

In addition to the fact that Congress has been bypassed in this policy decision, we need to look at the overall issue of national testing. In 1997, the Federal Government will spend roughly \$540 million to test students. Do we really need another testing program? I think money could be better spent on the learning process and teacher training. National tests aren't going to arm our students with the tools they need to gain a world-class education.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment. Even if you support the concept of national testing, you should support the Goodling amendment and permit an open debate on the issue in the Congress instead of letting the President and the Department of Education create policy.